



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

(09, July, 2012)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 09, July, 2012 at 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Jesus Lardizabal called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Jesus Lardizabal, Chip Howe, Kathy Kasprisin, Norman Kieke Ron Lucey, George Luc, and Tanya Winters.

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Commissioner Norman Kieke to approve the June 11, 2012 minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kathy Kasprisin. The motion was approved unanimously by all.
2. **OLD BUSINESS** no old business was conducted at the July 09, 2012 AMCPD meeting.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

**Presentation:** Jennifer McPhail Adapt of Texas, Texas Medicaid Matters Organizers - Discussion of My Medicaid Matters, an educational and outreach campaign to inform Texans on the importance of Medicaid and what would happen in Texas, if it was eliminated.

- What Medicaid means to Texans
  - Health - Medicaid provides hospitals, doctors and other health services to children, expectant mothers, people with disabilities, older Americans and low income Texas families.
  - Independence - Medicaid provides vital home and community-based services that allow seniors and younger people with disabilities to live independently in the community.
  - Children- Medicaid provides health coverage to one of out of three children in Texas and ensures they get the health care they need. Such healthy Texans are vital to a thriving Texas economy and future.
  - Jobs - Medicaid is good for the economy. Medicaid returns billions of our federal tax dollars back to our Texas economy and provides vital jobs for direct care workers, therapists, health care professionals, and other workers, helping them to support their families.
- Goals for my Medicaid Matters Campaign
  - The program intends to educate Texans, the Texas Legislators, policy makers, and Congress about the real people whose health, independence, families, and jobs are supported by Texas Medicaid.
  - The group will monitor and STOP damaging cuts, block grants, waivers, or caps that will harm Texans, our families and our communities.
  - The group will advocate for access to decent health care and community-based services and supports. Texas Leaders must be informed that deficit reduction and sustainable budgets must use a balanced approach, which includes new revenues and does not rely on cuts alone. New revenues in the mix preserve the Medicaid, CHIP, and Medicare Services and supports that many Texans count on.

- For more information about the campaign
  - Visit the website online at [www.mmmtx.org](http://www.mmmtx.org) to read stories about people that would be affected by cuts in Medicaid.
  - To tell your story call 1-855-442-0252
  - For more information contact
    - Bob Kafka, ADAPT of Texas 512-442-0252 [bob.adapt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bob.adapt@sbcglobal.net)
    - Amy Mizcles, The Arc of Texas 512-454-6694 [amizcles@thearcoftexas.org](mailto:amizcles@thearcoftexas.org)
- Discussion
  - Jennifer McPhail talked about seeking assistance from AMCPD to support My Medicaid Matters Campaign. Medicaid is a benefit and not a drain on state resources and in order for that argument to be heard, supporters of Medicaid must be vocal. Savings to the state from Money Follows the Person Program already proves that people can transition smoothly to community living thereby saving the state money.
  - McPhail also mentioned that the MMM program had already conducted town hall meetings throughout the State of Texas to gather statewide support.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Norman Kieke to draft a resolution for consideration for Council Action on My Medicaid Matters, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tanya Winters and approved unanimously by all.
  - The Resolution would cover the following points:
    - The resolution would recommend for doctors to take Medicaid as a form of payment for their services.
    - A key point would point out that cuts were already shifting medical costs to local communities. These communities have been affected by the cuts coming in waves, resulting in closed wait lists for Medicaid, and no additional people being added for services.
    - Since the state's policy makers are already looking at reform, there needs to be a community emphasis to not reduce medical services in the state. The resolution will have a broad statement of support for community based services for people with disabilities, the elderly, and children.
    - Some of the key points in the MMM PowerPoint will be included in the resolution.
  - Commissioner Chip Howe will draft the resolution and submit to AMCPD City Liaison Dolores Gonzalez. Ms. Gonzalez will forward to commissioners for review.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Access & Youth Committee – Chair Tanya Winters**

- Chair Tanya Winters reported the deadline for submitting nominations for Austin Access Awards is on Friday July 13, end of business day. The online nomination form could be found at [www.austintexas.gov/austinaccessawards](http://www.austintexas.gov/austinaccessawards).
- Chair Winters reported to the committee that six nominations had been received to date, encouraging citizens to nominate businesses that they frequented. Chair Winters also mentioned that business self-nominations were encouraged.

#### **Awards & Employment Committee – Chair Ron Lucey**

- Chair Ron Lucey reported to the committee that bids to host the AMCPD Employment Awards were being received from local venues. Those bids will be reviewed to finalize the venue for this year's Awards program.
- Commissioner Ron Lucey announced that Tom Suehs had tentatively agreed to be this year's keynote speaker.

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- Chair Lucey announced that a new nomination form would be available online soon for people to submit nominations for the awards.
  - Commissioner Chip Howe announced that nominations for the Texas Governor's Committee Awards had been submitted. Nominations that were submitted included a nomination for the Martha Arbuckle Award for AMCPD's Disability Mentoring Day program.
4. **ACTION ITEMS:** A motion was made by Commissioner Norman Kieke at the July 09, 2012 AMCPD meeting to draft a resolution for consideration for Council Action on My Medicaid Matters, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tanya Winters and approved unanimously by all.
  5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** No public hearings were held during the July 09, 2012 Meeting.
  6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** No citizen communication took place at the July 09, 2012 Meeting.
  7. **STAFF BRIEFINGS:** Dolores Gonzalez
    - **Budget:** report: There were no expenses this month, leaving a fiscal year balance of \$6,005.00
    - The Accessible fishing pier, CORE health foundation is sponsoring an event on September 29
    - DMD the first planning meeting will take place on July 10, 2012 at One Texas Center ((OTC) 505 Barton Springs Road, in the second floor TASC Conference Room starting at 11:30am. The Mexican American Cultural Center has been reserved for the event on October 17, 2012
    - The ADA Access & Sidewalk Taskforce had a meeting is scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30pm at OTC 13<sup>th</sup> floor Public Works Directors Conference Room. No agenda has been set yet.
    - The ADA Office has a Workbase Learning Program intern starting tomorrow and working with the office until August 10. She will be working on AMCPD projects. Please let Dolores know if the committee has any projects for the intern to work on. The intern's name is Gabriella.
    - ADA Onsites for the month include NHCD and AWU

### **CALENDAR**

- July 13, 2012 Deadline Austin Access Awards Nominations
  - Aug 2, 2012 Austin Access Awards at City Hall 5:30 pm
  - Sept 14-15 CTD Annual Convention in McAllen, Texas
  - CTD Pen 2 Paper deadline Aug 20, 2012 [www.cotwd.org/pen2paper.html](http://www.cotwd.org/pen2paper.html)
  - Sept 29, 2012 CTD Film Festival at Goodwill and CORE Fishing Pier Event
  - Oct 5-6, 2012 CTD Film Festival South Alamo Draft house
  - Oct 16, 2012 White Cane Day at Republic Square Park
  - Oct 17, 2012 Disability Mentoring Day
8. **Future Agenda Items:** In August the committee would like to have an update from the Health and Human Services Department. In September the Workbase Learning Program will be asked to come give an update.
  9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the July 09, 2012 meeting by Commissioner Kathy Kasprisin; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Ron Lucey. The motion was approved unanimously by all.